

of servers is proportional to a relative weight of each respective one of the plurality of servers;

a first interface to receive a DNS resolution request from one of the plurality of client domains; and

10 a second interface to return an IP address of one of the plurality of servers to which the one of the client domains was apportioned.--

#### REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests consideration of the subject application as amended herein. Applicant has submitted new claims 21 and 22. The new claims are fully supported by the originally filed specification in the prior application and no new matter has been added hereby. New claim 21 is an independent apparatus claim similar to allowed claim 1 in the prior application. New claim 22 is an independent apparatus claim similar to allowed claim 7 in the prior application. Because the new claims are similar to the claims allowed in the prior application, Applicant submits that claims 21 and 22 are also allowable and such action is respectfully requested.

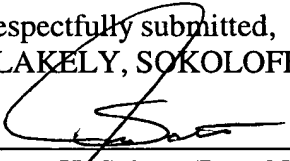
Applicant has amended the title for the purpose of clarifying that apparatus claims are included in the specification and the claimed subject matter.

Applicant has amended the specification to include the continuing information of prior application numbers 09/225,194 filed January 5, 1999 and 08/850,782 filed May 2, 1997.

Please charge any fees connected with this Preliminary Amendment to our Deposit Account Number 02-2666. If a telephone conference would facilitate the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to contact Jim H. Salter at (408) 720-8300.

Respectfully submitted,  
BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN LLP

Dated: 2/14/, 2001

  
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I hereby certify that I am causing this paper or fee to be deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service on the date indicated above and that this paper or fee has been addressed to BOX PATENT APPLICATION, Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D. C. 20231.

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2/14/01

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